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Cuba Faces Second Hungary, Schweiker Tells Alumni Group

Brings Up Memories of 'Bloody Budapest' as He Warns Of Massive Red Buildup, Hidden Arms Nests And Subversion Schools

A repetition of "Bloody Budapest" looms in Cuba unless the American nations take "severe" action to stem the growth of Communist military power and subversion in this hemisphere, Congressman Richard S. Schweiker, of Lansdale, told an audience in Philadelphia Friday night.

"A revolt in Cuba," he said as he addressed the Lafayette College Alumni Association, "would bring about another tragic Hungary." He urged that the Organization of American States (OAS) slap a total embargo on all ships that trade with Castro.

"This move would be severe," he continued, "but the situation demands severe action."

The Congressman, during his address at the Union League, appeared unconvinced that all offensive missiles have been removed from Cuba.

"They may or may not have been removed," he said, "but the vast build-up of so-called defensive arms, and the presence of thousands of Iron Curtain personnel pose a grave threat of our security and that of our Latin-American neighbors."

Mr. Schweiker reported that the House Inter-American Affairs Sub-Committee was told recently by Dr. Manuel A. de Varona, former Cuban Prime Minister, that the Kennedy Administration has underestimated the number of Soviet troops in Cuba, possibly by as much as 50 per cent.

The Congressman quoted Dr. de Varona as saying that there may be as many as 35,000 Soviet troops on Castro's island bastion.

"In addition," Mr. Schweiker said, "Dr. de Varona stated that Cuba has set up several schools of sabotage and guerilla warfare throughout Latin America and has established two secret military bases, one in the jungles of Brazil and the other in the mountains of Paraguay."

"Central Intelligence Agency Director John A. McCone confirmed that more than 1,000 Latin Americans are known to receive guerilla warfare and subversion training from Castro's Red forces each year."

Mr. Schweiker charged that the Communist arms machine in Cuba is more powerful today than early last Fall when some Congressman first warned of the buildup.

He demanded an embargo that would exempt only food and drugs and that all OAS nations refuse admission to their port of any ships used to call other than these necessities to the island country.

"The chances for successful overthrow of the Castro regime from within become more remote each day," he continued.

"I regret that the Administration did not see fit to take decisive action more quickly last Fall."

"I feel strongly that the month-and-a-half lost between September 11, when many of us in Congress called for a blockade, and October 22, when that action finally was taken, contributed greatly to the Red military might which now threatens us from Cuba."

"I would urge that immediate economic sanctions be imposed by the OAS until such time as we can be certain, through on-site inspections or some other iron-clad guarantee, that the military threat posed by Cuba is eliminated," he concluded.

Dr. K. Roald Bergethon, Lafayette president, also spoke.

Officers Elected

Walter D. Macht, of Wallingford, was elected president of the Alumni association, succeeding Dr. William T. Hunt, Jr., of Wynnewood. Macht is vice president of James S. Ifill & Co., Inc., insurance brokers.

William G. Wilson, of Ardmore, was named vice president. Other officers elected were John S. Wynn, Jr., of Gladwyne, Elmer E. Huhn, of Lansdowne, and Robert S. Woodcock, of Gladwyne.